Applicants: Okada et al. Appl. No. 09/474,127

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 7 and 13 are pending in the application, with claim 7 being the only independent claim. Claims 8-12 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein, in accordance with the Reply to Restriction and Election of Species Requirement, filed herewith. The subject matter of new claim 13 is contained in the application as originally filed. Accordingly, the foregoing amendment does not introduce new matter and its entry is respectfully requested.

New claim 13 corresponds to the invention elected in the Reply to Restriction and Election of Species Requirements filed herewith. New claim 13 reads on the check valve species and center section species elected in the Reply to Restriction and Election of Species Requirements filed herewith.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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